

**ABSTRACT**

A system and method are provided for scanning an optical code, in which an optical code scanner system includes an ambient light sensor having at least one photo sensor for sensing ambient light conditions and generating at least one first electrical signal corresponding to the sensing of the ambient light conditions, and a photo sensor array having a plurality of photo sensors for sensing light reflected from the target being imaged and generating a plurality of second electrical signals corresponding the sensing of the reflected light. The optical code scanner further includes at least one of exposure circuitry for controlling exposure during the sensing of the reflected light, gain circuitry for processing gain of at least a portion of the plurality of second electrical signals and an illumination assembly for providing illumination for illuminating the target; and a processing circuitry for processing at least a portion of the at least one first electrical signal electrical signal and controlling at least one of the exposure circuitry, the gain circuitry and the illumination assembly in accordance with the processing of the at least a portion of the at least one first electrical signal.